

LT. GOVERNOR JOHN GARAMENDI COMMENTS ON COLLEGE FUNDING REPORT RELEASED TODAY

SACRAMENTO, CA – Lt. Governor John Garamendi, a University of California Regent and a California State University Trustee, had the following comments today on the release of a new report by the Campaign for College Opportunity, which concludes that our public colleges and universities have not recovered from budget cuts earlier this decade, and additional cuts in the proposed FY 08-09 budget will further reduce these institutions' ability to meet the needs of our students and California's economy:

"Today's report confirms what our state's students and their families already know - declining state support has left them footing the bill for what was once a free, public higher education system, accessible to any qualified student.

"Our campuses are already dealing with a nearly decade-long trend of underfunding, while at the same time struggling to accommodate increased enrollment growth.

"On the governing boards of the UC and CSU, I have led the fight to halt the increasing taxation of our students, and on Monday, April 21, I will join students, faculty and staff as they bring this message to the State capitol, and demand that California once again step up to the challenge of investing in our future."

Information on April 21: www.studentsforcalifornia.org

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Contact: Mike Roth

916-445-8994